



Afternoon Alert - Wednesday, August 8, 2018

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HEADLINES

Noon news

All networks led with reports on the typhoon approaching the Kanto region. According to TBS, the typhoon may hit the Kanto region early Thursday morning.

INTERNATIONAL

Chinese government cancels international symposium on comfort women

TBS reported at noon that an international symposium on the comfort women issue slated for later this week in Shanghai has been canceled at the request of the Chinese government. The network said Beijing apparently showed consideration for Japan since this weekend marks the 40th anniversary of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship between Japan and the People's Republic of China. According to the network, about 60 experts from China, South Korea, Japan, the U.S. and North Korea were expected to attend the event scheduled to be held at Shanghai Normal University on Aug. 10.

PM Abe and UN secretary general agree to maintain sanctions on DPRK

NHK, TBS, and Fuji TV reported at noon that Prime Minister Abe and UN Secretary General Guterres met this morning in Tokyo and agreed on the need to maintain the UNSC sanctions in order to achieve the complete denuclearization of North Korea. "We shared the view that the international community needs to fully implement the measures based on UNSC resolutions in order to elicit concrete actions from North Korea," said the prime minister. Secretary General Guterres reportedly said the abductions issue is something that cannot be accepted in today's world and

stressed that he will "completely support Japan" in resolving it. TBS added that Guterres is expected to become the first sitting UN secretary general to attend the peace memorial ceremony in Nagasaki on Aug. 9.

- [Interview: Suga believes Japan-N. Korea abduction talks to be held](#) (Jiji Press)
- [U.S. resumption of sanctions against Iran to have repercussions for Japanese economy](#) (Sankei)
- [Japan to carefully analyze impact of U.S. sanctions on Iran](#) (Jiji Press)
- [Why have a Japan House?](#) (Mainichi, Evening edition)
- [Editorial: North's selfish assertions over delayed denuclearization must not be overlooked](#) (The Japan News)

ECONOMY

- ["Japan-U.S. FTA" will become a focal point of FFR dialogue](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Michael Froman: "Prospects for reaching a bilateral agreement remain unclear"](#) (Yomiuri)
- [Trade War – Part 3: U.S. sanctions on China having repercussions for Japanese firms](#) (Nikkei)
- [Japan under pressure due to potential U.S. auto import restrictions](#) (Mainichi)
- [Former MAFF Minister Moriyama: "Bilateral talks offer few merits"](#) (Mainichi)
- [Malaysia seeks Toyota and Nissan's help for national car project](#) (Nikkei Asian Review)
- [Gov't to step up efforts to regulate fish catches](#) (Mainichi)

SECURITY

Saga governor confirms Osprey is safe

Nikkei reported online on press remarks this morning by Saga Governor Yamaguchi, who said the prefectural government will resume talks with the Defense Ministry on the proposed deployment of GSDF Ospreys at Saga Airport, noting that the consultations had been suspended following a GSDF helicopter crash in the prefecture in February. The governor reportedly said he had confirmed there was nothing unreasonable about the ministry's explanation that the Osprey is safe.

- [Tokyo tightening waterfront security ahead of Olympics](#) (The Japan Times)
- [2020 Tokyo Olympics chiefs unveil pioneering face-recognition security system](#) (The Japan Times)
- [Editorial: Aegis Ashore missile defense costs run risk of ballooning without limit](#) (The Mainichi)

POLITICS

- [Prime minister's schedule on August 7, 2018](#) (Nikkei)
- [Cartoon: Ishiba](#) (Asahi)

- [Cartoon: Abe neglects his homework](#) (Akahata)
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